

Message Text

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ACTION CU-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EA-11 ISO-00 L-03 SAJ-01 SAM-01 NSC-07

NSCE-00 SS-20 USIA-15 EUR-25 SCI-06 SMI-01 INR-11

CIAE-00 NSAE-00 SP-03 EB-11 COME-00 NIC-01 PA-04

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R 190815Z SEP 74

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2424

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL PFOR CH

SUBJECT: FRG NEGOTIATIONS FOR CHINESE ARCHEOLOGICAL EXHIBITION
COLLAPSE

1. GERMANS HERE INFORM US THAT THEIR NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE CHINESE FOR THE ARCHEOLOGICAL EXHIBITION NOW IN MEXICO CITY HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED, AND THERE IS VIRTUALLY NO CHANCE THAT IT WILL GO TO GERMANY. CHINESE HAD APPROACHED GERMANS WITH A PROPOSAL TO BRING THE EXHIBITION FROM MEXICO TO GERMANY SOMETIME IN OCTOBER OF THIS YEAR. GERMANS AGREED BUT ASKED FOR FOUR MONTHS AND TWO CITIES, WEST BERLIN AND COLOGNE. CHINESE REFUSED TO AGREE TO TWO CITIES, AND GERMANS ACQUIESCED PROVIDED ONE CITY WOULD BE WEST BERLIN. CHINESE SAID THEY PREFERRED COLOGNE, BUT FRG FOREIGN MINISTRY REFUSED TO BUDGE.

2. NEGOTIATIONS WERE SUSPENDED AT THAT POINT, AND IT APPEARS THAT UNLESS CHINESE WILL AGREE TO WEST BERLIN,
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EXHIBITION IS CANCELLED. CHINESE REPORTEDLY HAVE

APPROACHED BOTH BELGIANS AND DUTCH ON AN URGENT BASIS TO TAKE THE EXHIBITION FOR PERIOD WHEN IT WOULD HAVE BEEN IN GERMANY. BOTH HAVE DECLINED THE OFFER ON THE GROUND THAT IT IS TOO EXPENSIVE AND NOT ENOUGH TIME ALLOWED TO ARRANGE MUSEUM SPACE.

3. COMMENT: UNLIKE THE EXHIBITION FOR WHICH WE ARE NEGOTIATING, CHINESE APPEAR TO BE HAVING REAL DIFFICULTIES WITH SECOND SHOW WHICH INITIALLY WENT TO JAPAN. GERMANS HAD AGREED TO EARLIER SHOWING THAN ORIGINALLY PLANNED WHEN ARGENTINES DECIDED EXHIBITION WAS TOO EXPENSIVE. OTHER FACTORS WERE ALSO INVOLVED IN GERMAN NEGOTIATIONS SUCH AS HIGH TRANSPORT COSTS AND STIFF INSURANCE PREMIUM FOR PROTECTION AGAINST DAMAGE OR LOSS. FRG GOVERNMENT THEREFORE WAS PROBABLY NOT TERRIBLY CONCERNED THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS COLLAPSED. CHINESE MAY HAVE TO SHIP THIS EXHIBITION HOME THEMSELVES.
BRUCE

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